


Law Enforcement

YEAR-END REVIEW

2010





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BLM Office of Law Enforcement and Security 2010 Reorganization Effort

In early 2010, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Office of Law Enforcement and Security (OLES) underwent a reorganization effort that combined individual state programs into five multistate programs known as regions. The realignment was designed to improve program efficiency and effectiveness throughout the BLM. The realignment established a regional special agent-in-charge (SAC) position and introduced 12 first-line supervisory assistants to special agents-in-charge (ASAC), who work under the SACs and greatly expand the BLM's investigative capacity. The ASACs also assist SACs with managing an increasingly complex program by supervising a growing number of field agents and acting as an investigative liaison to BLM state directors. Additionally, chief rangers, formerly known as state staff rangers, now have expanded leadership roles and an increased ability to address issues they face as technical experts and liaisons with other uniformed law enforcement agencies.

The five regions are broken down as follows:

Region 1: California

SAC location: Sacramento, California

Region 2: Alaska, Idaho, and Oregon/Washington

SAC location: Portland, Oregon

Region 3: Nevada and Utah

SAC location: Salt Lake City, Utah

Region 4: Colorado, the Dakotas, Montana, Wyoming, and the Eastern States

SAC location: Denver, Colorado

Region 5: Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas

SAC location: Santa Fe, New Mexico

Director's Message

William Woody

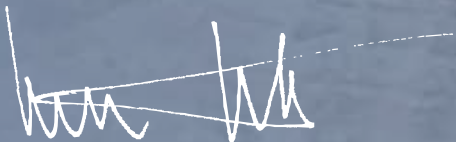
Over the past 40 years, the public's use of BLM-administered lands has risen dramatically. This rise in use has unfortunately led to an increase in criminal activity, which significantly affects natural, cultural, scientific, historic, and recreational resources found on more than 245 million acres of public lands managed by the BLM.

There are currently more than 300 rangers and agents assigned to patrol, protect visitors, and investigate crimes that occur on public lands. These increasingly complex, long-term, and multijurisdictional natural resources crimes include everything from multistate marijuana cultivation operations to the theft and trafficking of archaeological and paleontological resources, the verification of oil and natural gas production, nonpayment of royalties, and even the theft of oil and gas equipment. To successfully investigate these types of crimes, the BLM reorganized its investigations program in 2010 by combining 11 state programs into 5 regional programs. This cost-saving reorganization has allowed us to more effectively and efficiently manage our investigative law enforcement program and to put more agents in the field.

BLM ranger patrol districts can span more than 500,000 acres and include a busy city's urban interface as well as remote locations that can only be patrolled on two- or three- day trips. While patrolling their districts in 2010, rangers handled a wide variety of incidents—from saguaro theft, looting of archaeological sites, and vandalism to killing wild horses, illegal dumping, smuggling drugs and illegal aliens, and timber theft.

On top of their already-expansive patrol duties, BLM rangers also worked on multiple extended assignments outside of their districts, assisting in high-use off-highway vehicle areas in southern California, southwest border operations in Arizona, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) efforts in Indian country, and wild horse and burro gathers.

In addition to our truly dedicated BLM agents and rangers, I especially want to thank the numerous county sheriffs' departments who work with BLM law enforcement personnel to protect visitors, employees, and natural resources in their jurisdictions throughout America's public lands every single day.



William C. Woody, Director
BLM Office of Law Enforcement and Security





Deputy Director, Operations Jeanne Van Lancker

BLM law enforcement personnel have an enormous task—patrolling millions and millions of acres, investigating a huge variety of cases, partnering with numerous other agencies, keeping visitors and employees safe, and working tirelessly to protect the natural and cultural resources that make America’s public lands so unique. Yet, as I look back, I see that our special agents and rangers exceeded the successes of previous years and set the bar even higher for 2011.

In 2010, BLM law enforcement personnel wrapped up many successful investigations, moved forward with others, and began new ones. Our rangers patrolled truly remote lands, some of which can only be reached by air or water. They worked with our agents and partner agencies to combat the spread of marijuana cultivation operations on our public lands and made positive impacts—preventing new gardens and stopping much of the violence associated with these operations.

From handling a wide array of investigations, to working with partner agencies and departments to halt illegal smuggling activities on public lands, and interacting with thousands of visitors, BLM’s law enforcement personnel are already working toward another successful year. I have come to expect nothing but the absolute best from BLM agents and rangers, and despite the often daunting size of their task, the BLM law enforcement staff will undoubtedly succeed.



Deputy Director, Policy, Programs, and Budget

Felicia Probert

The primary mission of the national law enforcement staff is to provide the framework for a professional and effective BLM law enforcement program. This framework includes policies and procedures that govern all aspects of the law enforcement function including training, firearms, control tactics, program performance and evaluation, and strategic budget planning and execution.

During 2010, the national staff developed and coordinated 6 sessions of annual law enforcement in-service training to ensure more than 260 rangers and agents meet annual training requirements. For the first time in more than 10 years, the training was held at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center's facility in Artesia, New Mexico. This state-of-the-art training facility afforded the opportunity to provide training topic areas such as emergency vehicle response driving in high center of gravity vehicles and all-terrain vehicle operations.

In conjunction with the BLM's National Training Center, the national office hosted one session titled Introduction to Resource Protection which provided training on authority, jurisdiction, and laws and regulations to more than 25 new hire rangers and agents. Seven new hire rangers completed the Land Management Police Training Program, and 12 special agents completed the Criminal Investigator Training Program at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center.

Accomplishments in the policy arena include completion of a major revision to the BLM firearms policy and update of the medical standards for rangers and agents. These standards were approved by the Office of Personnel Management and will be implemented in 2011.

The BLM continued to play a lead role in the development of the automated Incident Management Analysis and Reporting System, or IMARS. When complete, IMARS will provide a centralized law enforcement reporting system for Department of the Interior law enforcement components, including the National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The behind-the-scenes work of the national staff is vital to the continued effectiveness and efficiency of the Bureau's law enforcement program. I would like to extend my personal gratitude to each and every member of the staff for their continued hard work and dedication.



National Chief Ranger Jason Caffey

As the BLM National Chief Ranger, I appreciate the high level of commitment BLM rangers across the nation exhibit each and every day. As I watched numerous BLM rangers honored with prestigious awards in 2010, it became clear that I am far from alone in recognizing our rangers' dedication, hard work, and outstanding achievements. Four BLM rangers were honored at the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA) national awards banquet. Rangers Carman Prisco, Bryn Elton, Alexandra Burke, and Chief Ranger Derek Anderson received the FLEOA Bravery Award for displaying courage in the line of duty.

While investigating a large marijuana cultivation site on public lands in Lassen County, California, Ranger Prisco from the BLM-California Alturas Field Office and Ranger Elton from the BLM-California El Centro Field Office were forced to make a split-second decision to protect themselves and three other officers. After a deadly exchange of fire with two suspects using high-powered assault rifles, Prisco and Elton disarmed and handcuffed both suspects, cleared the area, and requested help for a wounded officer. Additionally, the National Association of Field Training Officers selected Prisco as the 2010 Field Training Officer of the Year for his extreme dedication to preparing the next generation of BLM rangers for successful law enforcement careers.

In January 2009, Ranger Burke from the BLM-Montana/Dakotas Glasgow Field Office helped U.S. Border Patrol Agent Phil Wright track down a murder suspect after the suspect shot and killed one person and wounded two others in a northeastern Montana town. Glasgow, Montana, was shut down until Ranger Burke stopped the gunman, preventing further loss of innocent life. Burke shot and killed the suspect after he ran from behind a tree and attempted to attack her with a knife. During National Police Week in May 2010, Ranger Burke was honored again—this time receiving a National Association of Police Organizations TOP COPS award. The award, which recognizes heroic actions and the sacrifices law enforcement officers make, acknowledged Burke's brave efforts to end the suspect's violent spree.

While working as a park ranger for the National Park Service, Chief Ranger Anderson, made his rounds on a cold January day, conducting a citizen-wellness check in a remote parking lot, only to find himself fighting for his own life. Before he could call for backup, the subject began a series of violent struggles. Ranger Anderson broke away from the unruly subject who ignored orders to stop and charged again, forcing Ranger Anderson to fire his weapon which killed the subject.

Other BLM rangers were also honored in 2010. Ranger and canine handler Reid Hopkins from the



BLM-California Bakersfield Field Office was recognized as the Kern County, California, Officer of the Year, while BLM-New Mexico Farmington Field Office Ranger Cole Blevins and Special Agent Chip Mican from the BLM-Oregon/Washington Roseburg District Office received the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center Director's Award.

These awards prove that BLM officers and agents do an outstanding job serving the American people by protecting millions of acres of public land and resources. Law enforcement professionals across the country clearly share my high opinion of our BLM rangers and special agents. Internally, BLM acknowledged Wes Jensen with BLM-Arizona as the Ranger of the Year and Kyle Gandiaga with BLM-Idaho as the Special Agent of the Year.

While the glamour of the award shows and the spotlight of recognition eventually wane, our rangers' work never ends. BLM rangers today are asked to do more than ever before. From Alaska to New Mexico and California to Colorado, America's natural and cultural resources are continually threatened. Simply patrolling their own sectors—once the bulk of ranger duties—is now something that must be coordinated with a myriad of special assignments. Our rangers adroitly balance patrol with everything from marijuana gardens and off-highway vehicle races to wild horse and burro gathers and border security operations. Rangers routinely work with the BIA and other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, managing an increasingly complex set of demands on their time.

For example, in 2010, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar identified four American Indian reservations in dire need of additional law enforcement resources. To help the BIA and the tribes increase safety on these reservations, the BLM and

other agencies stepped up, augmenting the reservations' local law enforcement efforts while new officers were recruited and trained. The BLM sent rangers to the Wind River Indian Reservation in central Wyoming and the Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation in northern Montana for a 6-month detail. In only 4 months, BLM rangers made well over 500 arrests while also visiting schools and interacting with reservation residents. Working with local law enforcement, our rangers promoted and reinforced community policing principles to improve reservation safety and make them better places to call home.

BLM's specialty units continued last year's trend towards excellence as well. The Police Canine Program expanded, moving closer to its goal of 10 canine teams. Two teams completed training in fall 2010 bringing the total number of trained teams to eight. Once the last two teams complete training scheduled to begin in spring 2011, we will meet our goal. I am proud to say the performance level of our canines and their handlers is simply outstanding, and I look forward to watching them continue to excel in 2011 and beyond.

Finally, the BLM's devoted field training officers (FTO) worked tirelessly to secure our program's future. Nearly 30 of the BLM's newest rangers completed the Field Training and Evaluation Program in 2010. While some were just starting law enforcement careers, others were continuing their work as law enforcement professionals. Thanks to the dedication of their FTOs, these new rangers received superior introductions to the BLM and to their new positions.

I'm truly proud of our rangers' exceptional work in 2010. The BLM rangers continued a long tradition of exemplary public service as they worked to protect America's public lands and the more than 57 million visitors who use them every year.

Ranger of the Year

In 2008, BLM's cadre of outstanding rangers gained a truly great addition when Wes Jensen joined the dedicated team in BLM-Arizona's Gila District. Ranger Jensen brought a great deal of experience with him—from his service in the U.S. Marine Corps to his work with the U.S. Park Police and the National Park Service. In the 2 years he has been with the BLM, Ranger Jensen has used that experience and his broad range of skills to benefit not only the BLM but also the public he serves.


Very early in his tenure as a ranger, the BLM sought to capitalize on Ranger Jensen's knowledge and professionalism by appointing him as an FTO. FTOs are extremely important to the BLM law enforcement program because they serve as newly-hired rangers' first role models. Since his appointment as an FTO, Ranger Jensen has excelled, superbly mentoring the BLM's next generation of rangers, educating them, and assisting them as they embark on successful careers.

In June 2010, two rangers in the BLM-Arizona Safford Field Office were involved in a shooting incident with an armed assailant. Both during and after this stressful incident, Ranger Jensen proved to be indispensable as he provided support, assistance, and information to those involved. Upon his arrival on scene, Ranger Jensen immediately, and without hesitation, assumed the role and responsibilities of a support law enforcement officer for the rangers involved. In this role, Jensen provided consistently accurate information updates and placed the highest priority on the involved rangers' needs—while also participating in the ongoing search for the shooter. Ranger Jensen carried out these diverse duties with resolve and professionalism, while also handling the heightened stress of nearly losing two fellow officers.



Ranger Jensen's responsibilities required extremely long hours and extensive logistical coordination across multiple crime scenes and jurisdictions. Nonetheless, Ranger Jensen acquitted himself admirably, diligently carrying out his duties in a professional manner with bearing and composure. There is no better endorsement for Ranger Jensen's actions than the subsequent statements of both rangers involved in the shooting that they were grateful Ranger Jensen was their support law enforcement officer.

Additionally, while on duty in the Gila District, Ranger Jensen assisted with the seizure of 2,344 pounds of processed marijuana and two handguns from smugglers on the U.S.-Mexico border. Ranger Jensen was also a key member of a team that identified an operation that involved



illegally removing protected saguaro cacti from public lands for commercial profit. The investigation led to a search warrant that recovered more than 20 stolen saguaros and the indictment of a suspect on multiple charges.

Above and beyond his extensive duties as an FTO, Ranger Jensen actively participates in special assignments throughout the BLM. In 2010, he worked details at the Imperial Sand Dunes in California, the Little Sahara Recreation Area in Utah, the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally in South Dakota, and as a tribal officer assisting the BIA on the Wind River Indian Reservation in Wyoming.

Ranger Jensen's actions each and every day, whether out on patrol, serving as an FTO, or supporting his fellow rangers, represent the very best of the BLM's ranger program. From mentoring new rangers, working to make tribal communities safer for residents, interdicting the flow of illegal aliens and drugs into the U.S., or simply working with visitors to our public lands, the BLM is exceptionally fortunate to have a ranger like Wes Jensen.

The BLM is extremely pleased to select Ranger Wes Jensen as the Ranger of the Year for 2010.

Special Agent of the Year

Special Agent Kyle Gandiaga's work ethic, character, and ever-increasing investigative skills have established him as one of the top special agents in the BLM. In 2010, Agent Gandiaga's consistently high level of professionalism, coupled with his can do attitude, resulted in several successful cases.

To begin, Agent Gandiaga investigated a politically sensitive case involving false statements made by a high profile environmental group on grazing applications. He investigated the case in the highest professional manner and worked with the U.S. Attorney's Office (USAO) and the defendant's legal counsel to find a positive outcome and to mitigate the negative media coverage.

Simultaneously, Agent Gandiaga worked with the BLM-Idaho Twin Falls Ranger Program to investigate two Idaho residents who dismantled and sold two historic mining structures on public lands in the Sun Valley area. The mining structures were the last of their kind in the entire mining district and had been eligible for the registry of National Historic Places. After the men were found hiding on public lands in California, they stood trial and were found guilty by a federal jury. Each man was sentenced to 18 months in federal prison and ordered to pay \$64,000 in restitution.

Agent Gandiaga's tireless fire investigations in previous years showed continued positive results for the Idaho Fire Trespass Program in 2010. BLM-Idaho was able to fund a new special agent position out of a \$1 million fire settlement resulting from his investigation. This is just another example of Agent Gandiaga's efforts that improve the program year after year.

Agent Gandiaga continued to be a key participant in the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) case that had previously resulted in the eradication of 38,000 marijuana plants, seizure of 23 pounds of marijuana seeds, and accomplishment of 11 arrests. The successful case continued to show on-the-ground results in the 2010 growing season, as there was a marked decrease

in the number of marijuana gardens discovered on public lands in Idaho. Agent Gandiaga was also instrumental in linking additional marijuana growing suspects to the organization targeted in the earlier OCDETF case.

Agent Gandiaga's efforts and abilities were recognized by BLM's law enforcement partners including the USAO and the Drug Enforcement Administration. This year, the Drug Enforcement Administration showed their faith in Agent Gandiaga's abilities by making him a task force officer with Title 21 authority related to marijuana cultivation on Idaho's public lands. In 2010, Agent Gandiaga was instrumental in the ongoing multiagency efforts to curb cultivation. He put in countless hours of surveillance and investigative time, often at a moment's notice. Not only was he involved



with cultivation cases, but at the end of the busy season, he represented the BLM on eight separate cleanup and rehabilitation operations at former gardens. Agent Gandiaga has shown that he is a team player on the multiagency group that is working to combat Idaho's marijuana cultivation problem.

Agent Gandiaga also took on the extra challenge of assisting rangers on Wyoming's Wind River Indian Reservation for two weeks. In addition to the everyday duties there, he and three other rangers responded to an attempted suicide and safely prevented a woman from tragically succeeding.

Agent Gandiaga consistently seeks out new casework and opportunities and strives everyday to make Idaho's public

lands a safe place for everyone to visit and enjoy. His investigative abilities and superlative character make him a pleasure to work with. This is recognized by not only his supervisor and peers, but also by the other agencies and partners that he works with everyday. Agent Gandiaga's unrivaled performance reflects highly, not only on the BLM law enforcement program, but on the law enforcement profession as a whole.

The BLM is extremely pleased to select Special Agent Kyle Gandiaga as the Agent of the Year for 2010.

2010 BLM Law Enforcement Statistics

In Fiscal Year 2010, 29,704 BLM law enforcement incidents were reported;
16,901 of those resulted in enforcement action¹.

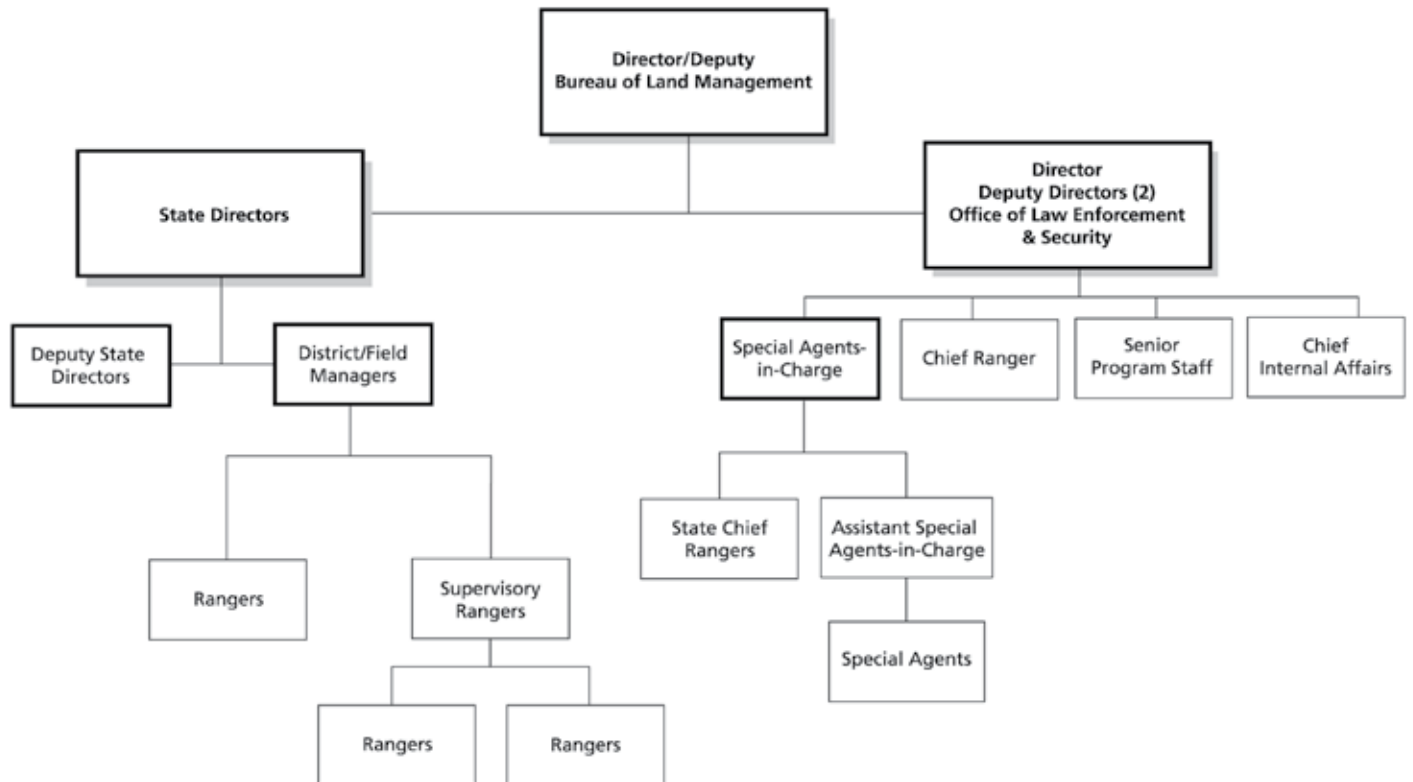
Incident	Number
Thefts	311
Theft Enforcement Actions	117
ARPA ² or Paleontological	50
Minerals	15
Timber	77
All Other Natural Resources	44
Vandalism	771
Vandalism Enforcement Actions	200
ARPA or Paleontological	66
All Other Natural Resources	515
Fire Incidents (Non-Arson)	803
Fire Incident Actions (Non-Arson)	700
Fire Incidents (Arson)	35
Fire Enforcement Actions (Arson)	6
Off-Highway Vehicles	5,048
Off-Highway Vehicle Enforcement Actions	4,496
Driving Under the Influence	160
Search and Rescue	190
Drug	1,285
Drug Enforcement Actions	1,087
Marijuana Sale and Manufacture	243
Marijuana Possession	776
Marijuana Seizures (BLM Land):	
Processed	4,319 lbs
Plants	593,832
Marijuana Seizures (Other Lands ³):	
Processed	2,051 lbs
Plants	298,332
Wild Horse and Burro	90
Hazardous Materials	93
Hazardous Materials Enforcement Actions	40
Occupancy Trespass	307
Occupancy Trespass Enforcement Actions	254
Assaults	
Law Enforcement Officers	8
Government Employees Non-Law Enforcement	17
Public	17

¹ Enforcement action = written warning, citation, criminal complaint, arrest, grand jury indictment, administrative or civil remedy

² Archaeological Resources Protection Act

³ Seizures made by the BLM on other federal, state, and private lands while assisting and/or conducting joint operations with other law enforcement agencies

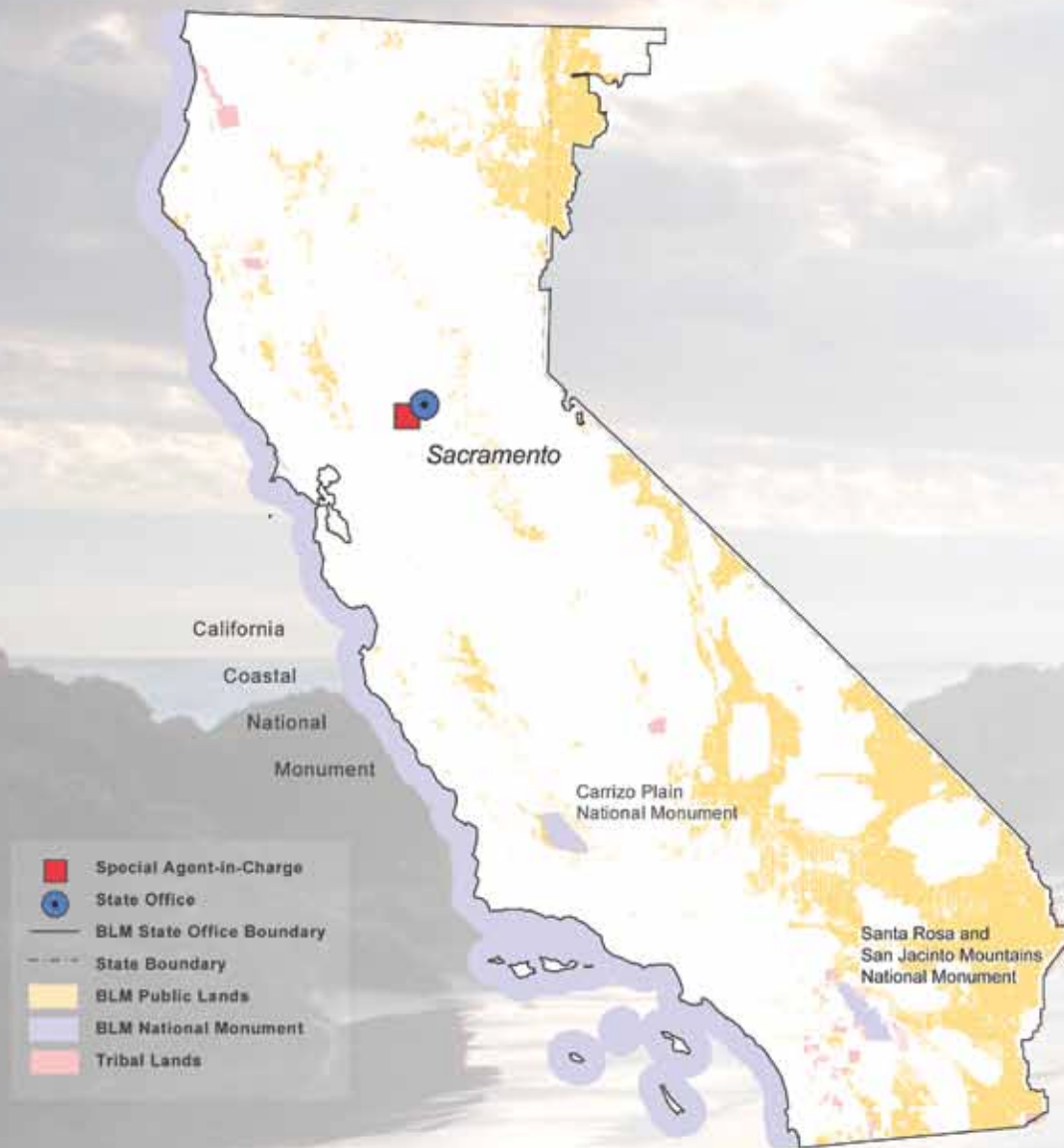
BLM Law Enforcement Organization



———— Line Authority



REGION 1



REGION 1

Special Agent-in-Charge

The Region 1 Special Agent-in-Charge Morgan “Troy” Bolen became a police officer in Carlsbad, New Mexico, in 1989 before serving as an undercover narcotics agent with the BIA, eventually becoming a supervisory special agent. During his tenure with the BIA, Bolen was instrumental in assisting with the establishment of the national Department of the Interior Watch Office. In 2004, Bolen accepted a position with the BLM-Utah State Office as a special agent. During his tenure in Utah, he served as the acting SAC on several occasions before becoming the BLM-California SAC. A native of Long Beach, California, Bolen holds a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice and a Master of Science in Justice Administration.



In 2010, California law enforcement officers directed and participated in numerous special enforcement operations throughout the state, including the Twin Peaks wild horse and burro roundup, saturation patrols, and eradication and cleanup of public lands victimized by persistent marijuana cultivation. In addition, Region 1 law enforcement officers continued to support national, state, and local special assignments and projects throughout California and the Western states.

Wild Horses and Burros

Through a collaborated effort between BLM law enforcement staff and resource specialists, the Twin Peaks wild horse and burro gather was conducted efficiently and without disruption. This roundup set a new standard for the BLM, using the federal incident command system (ICS) for conducting wild horse and burro roundups. As recognized by BLM Director Bob Abbey, the Twin Peaks used a modified ICS structure with great success.

BLM-California law enforcement officers also investigated the intentional shooting of wild horses on BLM lands. Two subjects were identified and charged in federal court. Both subjects pled guilty and face up to one year in prison and a \$100,000 fine.

Combating Marijuana Cultivation

Once again, California experienced the impact of marijuana cultivation on public lands and all of the issues and problems surrounding cultivation activities. In 2010, California saw an increase in violence associated with marijuana gardens occupied by illegal Mexican aliens. This resulted in the exchange of gunfire between law enforcement and those protecting the gardens on multiple occasions. In each instance law enforcement prevailed.



Also in 2010, a number of eradication and cleanup operations took place on California public lands that were impacted by illegal marijuana cultivation. Through saturation patrols in coordination with other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, the combined efforts made for a safe and highly successful eradication and cleanup season. Reclamation operations were conducted at 90 different locations, to include BLM gardens, and more than 33,000 pounds of debris and 29 miles of drip line were removed.

California once again participated in a month-long multiagency cooperative effort, Operation Trident, to eradicate marijuana and reclaim public and private lands in Fresno, Madera, and Tulare Counties. Participants included federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. As a result of this operation, agents eradicated 67,332 marijuana plants. They seized 642 pounds of processed marijuana, 33 pounds of marijuana seeds, 20 firearms, and 6 vehicles. Eight search warrants were served simultaneously, and 30 suspects were arrested. A multitude of environmental crimes coinciding with the marijuana growth were discovered, to include: water diversion, the dumping of hazardous material into the water system, and damage to natural resources.

The law enforcement staffs of the Arcata, Ukiah, Mother Lode, Bakersfield, Hollister, and Ridgecrest Field Offices, among others, were instrumental in combating Mexican drug trafficking organizations responsible for marijuana cultivation occurring on the public lands managed by these offices.

Protecting Recreation Areas

While experiencing a change in leadership, the El Centro Field Office law enforcement program hosted four national off-highway vehicle events that coincided with high-visitation weekends at the Imperial Sand Dunes. In total, more than 200 BLM officers and 150 Imperial County sheriffs' deputies supported the special events which have taken place for more than a decade. The Halloween, Thanksgiving, New Year's, and Presidents Day weekend events, with a combined visitation of 405,000 off-highway vehicle recreation enthusiasts, resulted in

25,606 enforcement contacts, 3,285 citations, 2,914 warnings, 150 arrests, and 61 driving under the influence cases. In addition, rangers and recreation staff responded to 278 medical aids, 26 of which required air-ambulance transport.

On a different note, to create a working group and establish a plan of action, rangers linked with other BLM staff to help manage the California Coastal National Monument, which spans the California coastline from Oregon to Mexico. The Hollister Field Office and Bakersfield Field Office law enforcement supervisors are leading the way and meeting with other federal, state, and local law enforcement partners to ensure protection of this unique resource.

Special Assignments and Task Forces

In support of Operation Alliance, the BIA presidential initiative to reduce violent crime on American Indian reservations, dozens of BLM-California rangers traveled to the Wind River Indian Reservation in Wyoming and the Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation in Montana throughout the summer months and contributed to the reduction of crime within these communities.

BLM special agents assigned to task forces were very active in 2010. Much of their work focused on investigating marijuana cultivation sites located on or affecting public lands. These agents supported other BLM agents throughout California by providing much-needed investigative support, such as criminal and financial database queries, intelligence analyst support, and administrative subpoena requests. Through this support, agents linked activities in their areas to ongoing investigations throughout California and other states.

BLM special agents continued to focus on previously identified groups who have been active on public lands over the last several years. One such investigation resulted in the simultaneous service of eight search warrants at residences in multiple cities in northern California. The warrants targeted associated suspects linked to the seizure of more than 45,000 cultivated marijuana plants, 1,193 pounds of processed

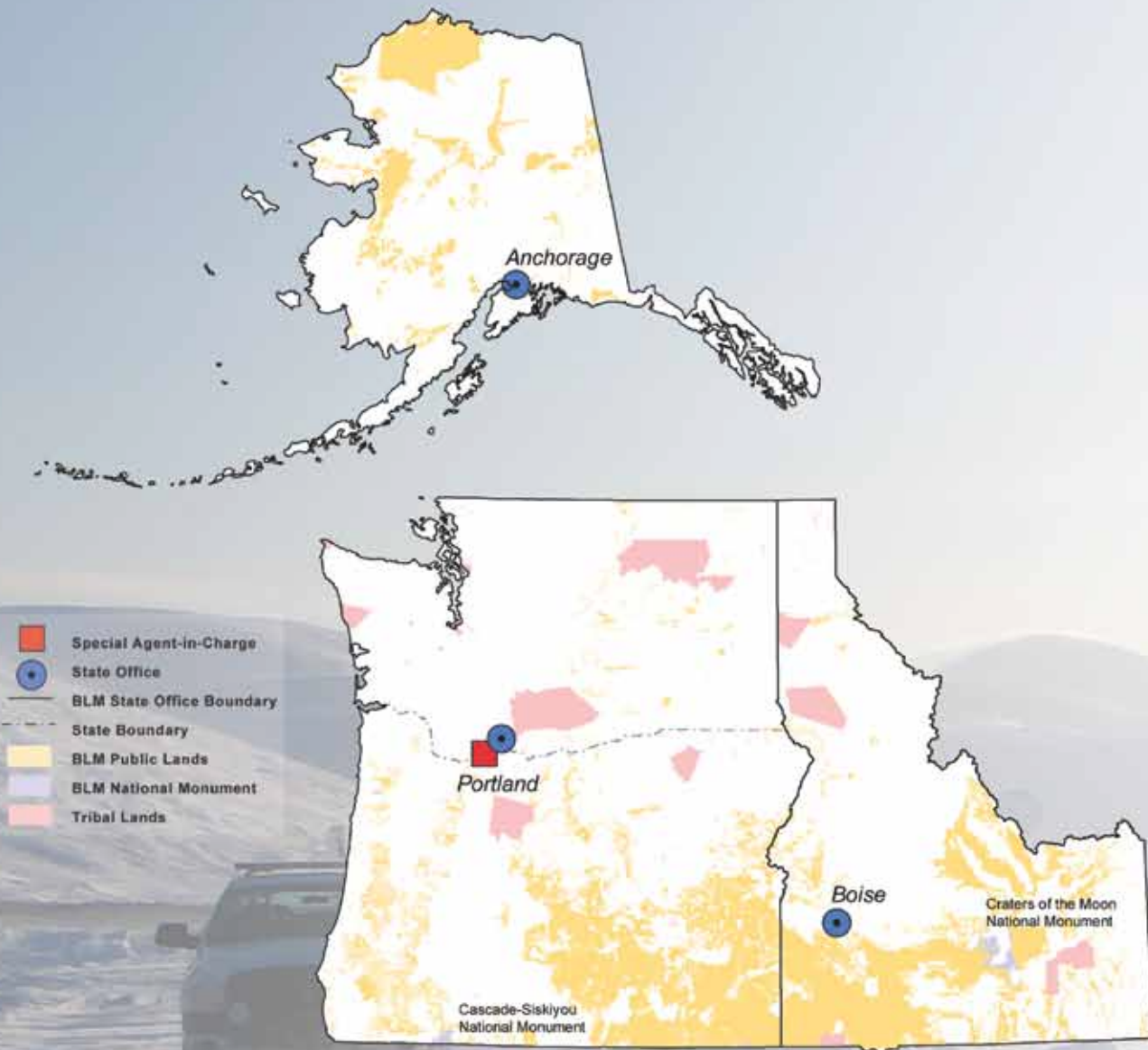
marijuana, \$20,616 in U.S. currency, and resulted in 18 arrests on BLM and U.S. Forest Service lands. The search warrants resulted in the seizure of numerous documents, 50 pounds of processed marijuana, 15 pounds of marijuana seeds, 6 firearms and ammunition, 7 computers, a vehicle, and \$357,760 in U.S. currency.

Looking Ahead

California remains the largest law enforcement program within the BLM and continues to grow with the 36 million residents and shrinking open space for recreation. The 62 rangers and 17 special agents are charged with ensuring the safety of more than 9.4 million recreation visitors each year and safeguarding the 15.2 million acres of BLM-managed public lands in California for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.



REGION 2



REGION 2

Special Agent-in-Charge

The Region 2 Special Agent-in-Charge Gary Mannino came to the BLM from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Office of Law Enforcement where he was the assistant special agent-in-charge for one of the Northwest Division districts. At the NOAA, Mannino supervised seven special agents in Washington and Oregon. Under his supervision, these agents conducted criminal and civil investigations related to protecting our nation's invaluable marine resources. Before working with the NOAA, Mannino was a special agent for the Secret Service in Atlanta, Georgia. During his employment with the Secret Service, he was assigned to the West African Fraud Task Force and took a lead role in security planning for the 2004 G8 Summit. Mannino began his law enforcement career as a game warden in Georgia where he patrolled along the Chattahoochee River and enforced state and federal fish- and game-related laws and regulations in Fulton County, Georgia. Mannino also served 4 years in the U.S. Army, during which time he participated in Desert Shield and Desert Storm as a member of the 1st Ranger Battalion. Mannino graduated with honors from the University of Florida in 1998 with a degree in criminology.



Over the course of the year, the 38 rangers, 13 special agents, and 3 support staff members who make up Region 2 were responsible for law enforcement activities on BLM-administered lands across 19 separate BLM districts and covering more than 100 million acres.

Alaska

Alaska encompasses an area so vast it can be difficult to comprehend the challenge facing BLM-Alaska's law enforcement officers. The 83 million acres of BLM-managed lands in Alaska span an area larger than the entire state of New Mexico and account for nearly 34 percent of all BLM-managed lands nationwide. In fact, much of BLM-Alaska's land is inaccessible by road and can be reached only by aircraft. BLM-Alaska rangers and agents use a variety of vehicles to get the job done, travelling and patrolling in everything from traditional patrol vehicles to all-terrain vehicles (ATV), snowmobiles, motorboats, rafts, and fixed and rotary wing aircraft.

In 2010, law enforcement officers in Alaska continued to work closely with personnel from other federal and state agencies, and their ongoing coordination with the Alaska State Troopers was integral to the program's success. BLM agents assisted numerous other agencies with criminal investigations and apprehensions—investigating the illegal sale of a polar bear hide and the theft of government property, making arrests for weapons misconduct and felonious weapons possession, and executing a



search warrant for marijuana cultivation. Additionally, agents successfully investigated and obtained an indictment for the charge of conspiracy to violate the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act.

The BLM-Alaska law enforcement program provides services to some of America's most remote and untamed regions. The White Mountains National Recreation Area, Steese National Conservation Area, Tangle Lakes Archaeological District, Iditarod National Historic Trail, and the Fortymile, Delta, and Gulkana Wild and Scenic Rivers are treasured landscapes and iconic parts of American history and culture, but their isolation makes patrolling an ongoing challenge. Nonetheless, BLM-Alaska rangers and agents conquer often-hostile terrain and wild and unpredictable weather to protect these public lands and the intrepid people who visit them.

Idaho

BLM-Idaho's law enforcement team had another successful year in 2010. Law enforcement officers patrolled Idaho's 12 million acres of diverse public lands and provided law enforcement services at places like the St. Anthony Sand Dunes Recreation Area, wild horse and burro gathers, and archaeological sites in the Owyhee Canyonlands.

In 2010, the Idaho program added a special agent position in Idaho Falls and fully staffed ranger positions statewide. The new agent position was partially funded by the approximately \$1 million in fire trespass funds successfully recovered by Idaho agents in 2009. The new agent supports Idaho's Fire Trespass Program, which investigates fires on BLM-Idaho lands that can be tied to human activity. The new agent's primary responsibility is wildland arson investigations in eastern Idaho.

The Boise District, which has the busiest ranger program in the state, was restructured with the addition of a chief ranger to supervise three resident rangers. The restructuring is expected to greatly improve efficiency in a district that encompasses 3.9 million acres and is located near Idaho's largest population base, roughly 650,000 people.

In another case, a father and son were digging for artifacts and vandalized a 12,000-year-old Native American cultural site near Cooper's Ferry, Idaho. The site, which contains some of the earliest evidence of humans in the Pacific Northwest, is also part of a long-term study by the Oregon State University Department of Anthropology. After another successful BLM-Idaho investigation, the defendants each pled guilty in federal court for violating the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA).

After two lower than average fire seasons, 2010 saw increased fire activity on BLM-Idaho lands. There were 81 human-caused fires that burned 49,693 acres. BLM-Idaho's Fire Trespass Program determined that a majority of these fires resulted from accidents or negligence. Idaho special agents and rangers investigated less arson cases in 2010, which can be attributed to successful fire trespass investigations and prosecutions in recent years. In fact, since 2006, BLM-Idaho investigations led to the convictions of 3 Idaho residents who were responsible for approximately 27 separate arsons on public lands.

Oregon/Washington

Throughout 2010, BLM rangers and special agents in Oregon and Washington continued to coordinate with federal, state, and local law enforcement partners. Through a multitude of interagency enforcement activities, joint patrols, investigations, and training, BLM law enforcement personnel strengthened their ties with many partner agencies. With enhanced funding, rangers have been able to work more closely with county partners to help with their efforts to investigate and dismantle drug trafficking organizations operating on public land.

Drug trafficking operations on public lands cause tremendous resource degradation and extensive pollution from herbicides, pesticides, and fertilizers no longer legal in the United States. The resulting danger to the public, BLM employees, and wildlife cannot be overstated, so BLM-Oregon/Washington launched an aggressive program to remove the chemicals these drug operations leave behind and rehabilitate the sites. Due

to the extreme danger to employees and the public posed by these drug trafficking operations, BLM-Oregon/Washington agents made marijuana cultivation investigations a priority.

In 2010, a shooting at a marijuana garden on BLM land in Jackson County, Oregon, resulted in the death of a foreign suspect and underscored the growing trend of violence associated with these gardens. With two additional special agents on staff and cooperative agreements in place with other law enforcement agencies, the BLM focused on investigating the larger drug trafficking operations that are believed to be responsible for most of the marijuana gardens on public lands. In a concerted effort to dismantle the trafficking operations to the point that they are unable to operate on public lands in an efficient or profitable manner, the BLM remains involved in a number of large, multiyear, multistate investigations.

In 2010, BLM law enforcement eradicated more than 39,000 marijuana plants on public lands in Oregon and made 8 arrests. As the investigations continue, more indictments and arrests are expected. However, intelligence gathered through ongoing investigations suggests that successful eradication efforts conducted in 2009, and continuing investigations

in 2010, have made it more difficult for these operations to work, causing them to scale back some of their operations.

In addition to the ever-growing workload created by outdoor marijuana gardens and drug trafficking operations, rangers in Oregon and Washington still have a full complement of other law enforcement duties to handle. Rangers patrol using ATVs, utility transport and four-wheel drive vehicles, horses, and boats. They battle the theft of natural resources, especially timber and valuable forest products. They confront recreation-related issues at off-highway vehicle areas, campgrounds, and other high-use visitor areas. And they face illegal drug use resulting in conflicts with legitimate visitors. BLM-Oregon/Washington special agents and rangers successfully investigated several other resource-related crimes in 2010, including ARPA violations. Efforts related to the ongoing “Operation Bring’em Back” have led to 18 guilty pleas to conspiracy to commit ARPA violations. In 2010, five felony convictions were obtained in this same case for the distribution and possession of controlled substances. Agents also worked on significant theft investigations in Oregon related to native vegetation and 120 acres of old growth timber.



Before and after photos.

Marijuana Cultivation on Public Lands

As expected, 2010 was another busy year for the BLM law enforcement program in dealing with illegal marijuana gardens on America's public lands; and marijuana cultivation investigations continued to dominate BLM special agents' workloads in California, Oregon, and Idaho.

In 2010, BLM special agents, rangers, and state and local partner agencies located and eradicated approximately 891,000 marijuana plants growing on BLM-administered lands or adjacent private lands. In addition to the plants seized, there were approximately 52 individuals arrested for and charged with various drug- and resource-related violations.

BLM-California participated in the month-long, multiagency effort called Operation Trident, which worked to eradicate marijuana and reclaim public and private lands in Fresno, Madera, and Tulare Counties. Participants included federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, and their coordinated efforts eradicated 67,332 marijuana plants. Agents seized 642 pounds of processed marijuana, 33 pounds of marijuana seeds, 20 firearms, and 6 vehicles. They served 8 search warrants simultaneously and arrested 30 suspects. In addition, Operation Trident participants uncovered a multitude of environmental crimes, including water diversion, dumping hazardous materials into water systems, and damaging natural resources. As a result of agents' discoveries, reclamation operations were conducted at 90 different locations, including on BLM lands, and more than 33,000 pounds of debris and 29 miles of drip line were removed. The cleanup costs in these illegal marijuana gardens averaged a staggering \$5,000 per acre.

Recently, there has been an alarming increase in violence associated with marijuana cultivation on public lands throughout the West. Arrests and collected evidence continue to point toward Mexican drug trafficking organizations (MDTO) as responsible for the vast majority of marijuana

garden operations. These MDTOs use armed guards, most of whom are undocumented aliens, to protect their million-dollar growing operations. The armed protection of these operations continues to create serious safety issues for not only responding officers, but to those enjoying our nation's public lands. In 2010, there were seven documented officer-involved shootings that occurred when officers confronted individuals protecting these marijuana gardens. Recreationists, as well as those who depend on public lands to make a living, also run the risk of stumbling into one of these armed criminals. Because of this ever-increasing threat, the BLM OLES made this crime one of its top enforcement priorities. In 2009, the OLES added 10 new drug enforcement positions throughout the West, and in 2010, provided an additional \$215,000 to several Oregon sheriffs' offices working with the BLM. Additionally, numerous federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies are collaborating to end the cultivation and violence—and once again make the National System of Public Lands safe for everyone.

A closer look at eastern Oregon and Idaho

With continued law enforcement pressure on illegal growers in states such as California, states like Oregon and Idaho are beginning to see increases in marijuana cultivation activity. Eastern Oregon's mostly-rural Malheur County is quickly becoming the new, albeit unexpected, battlefield for expanding MDTOs. The predominantly BLM-administered high desert land was once considered an unlikely place to grow marijuana, but now an average of 15,000 plants are discovered each year by law enforcement and public land users. BLM law enforcement and the Malheur County Sheriff's Office have joined forces to combat the issue with shared manpower, resources, and a common goal.

In 2009, BLM special agents in Idaho shared a lead role with the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force case called Operation PB&J. This operation was largely

responsible for the seizure of 9,000 plants and 10 arrests and convictions in Idaho. Investigative efforts on this case also led to the seizure of more than 27,000 plants in eastern Oregon. These efforts showed on-the-ground results in the 2010 growing season when fewer marijuana garden operations were discovered and key defendants under prosecution subsequently cooperated with the investigation. Agents learned that marijuana garden operators had identified Idaho's public lands as an expansion location for growing operations based in California and Oregon. However, investigators learned that one MDTO chose not to plant illegal gardens in Idaho in 2010 because of the heavy losses caused by law enforcement activities.

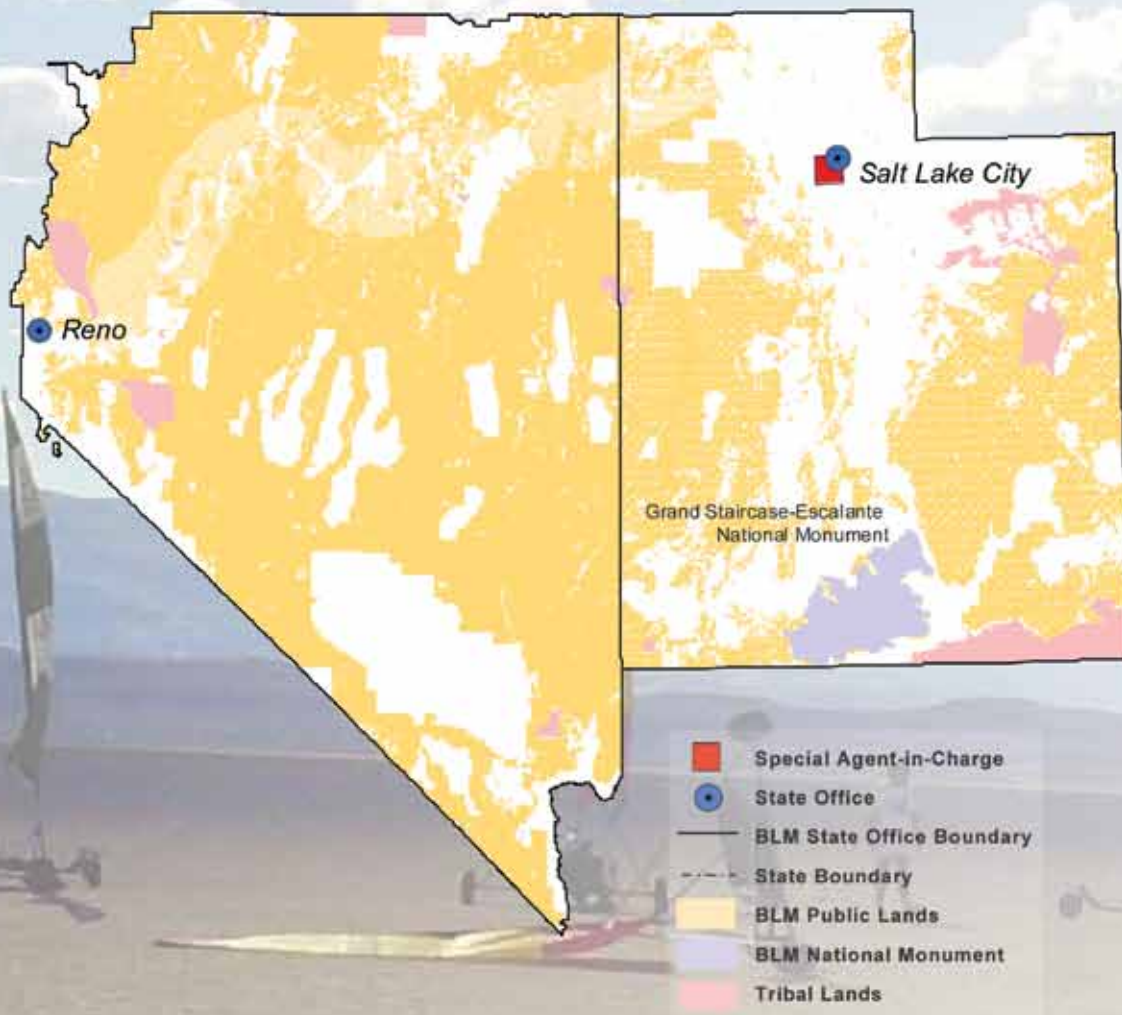
Operation PB&J and other cases continued into 2010 with the arrest and indictments of four people involved with marijuana cultivation on public lands in Idaho, Oregon, and California. Agents linked an organization to the seizure of

more than 13,000 plants in Oregon and California over the last 2 years, as well as the seizure of 43 pounds of processed marijuana. In addition to the arrests, the case also resulted in the discovery of marijuana garden operations in eastern Oregon, numerous search warrants in three states, the seizure of two vehicles used to supply the gardens, and the recovery of stolen firearms. To date, four gardens have been discovered and eradicated in Idaho and eastern Oregon, five arrests have been made, and more are expected.

The driving force behind the law enforcement success against illegal growers in Idaho has been the steadfast support of the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Idaho, while aggressive federal prosecutors working closely with the BLM, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Forest Service, and state and local law enforcement agencies has led to real results on the ground.



REGION 3



REGION 3

Special Agent-in-Charge

Following the OLES reorganization, Mark Pirtle became the Region 3 Special Agent-in-Charge. With more than 25 years in federal law enforcement, Pirtle began his federal career as a deputy U.S. marshal, serving 5 years in Los Angeles. In May 1990, he moved to the BLM, spending 5 years as a special agent for BLM-Oregon. In 1996, he transferred to the BLM-Nevada state program where he worked as a special agent for 9 years before becoming the BLM-Nevada Special Agent-in-Charge in February 2005. Pirtle has a Bachelor of Science in Forestry from Northern Arizona University, and he served 3 years in the U.S. Army working as a military policeman in west Germany.



Background

The BLM administers approximately 48 million acres of public land in Nevada—nearly 68 percent of the state. Nevada's resources are diverse, ranging from traditional uses, such as grazing and mining, to cutting-edge renewable energy development and the recreational demands and societal problems that often accompany rapid population growth.

The 22 million acres of public land managed by the BLM in Utah include magnificent open spaces of extraordinary beauty and diversity; remote wilderness areas teeming with countless species of plant and animal life—many of them threatened or endangered; extensive reserves of energy and mineral resources; and spectacular world-class recreation venues that attract millions of visitors annually from across the nation and around the world.

Recreational Priorities

In northern Nevada, the BLM manages a major off-highway vehicle recreational site at the Sand Mountain Recreation Area. This area, located in Churchill County, is an example of the steep growth of off-highway vehicle use, which has tripled in the past 15 years. This year, the BLM assigned four to seven additional law enforcement officers to work at the Sand Mountain Recreation Area over each major holiday weekend. During those busy weekends, BLM officers documented 401 incidents, issued close to 103 citations, and made 2 arrests.

The BLM also manages one national conservation area (NCA) in northern Nevada—the Black Rock Desert High-Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails NCA. Located within a 2-hour drive from rapidly-growing Reno, Nevada, the NCA hosts the annual Burning Man festival. Burning Man is the largest



nationally attended recreational event permitted on BLM-managed lands and draws thousands of visitors every year. The BLM assigned 51 officers to work the event, and the local sheriff's office and Nevada Department of Public Safety also provided 30 officers. In 2010, the event drew 51,515 participants over 10 days, and BLM officers issued 293 citations and made or assisted in nine arrests.

In southern Nevada, the BLM manages two NCAs close to the bustling metropolis of Las Vegas—Sloan Canyon NCA and Red Rock Canyon NCA. Being so close to the fastest growing city in the nation, these two NCAs see more than one million visitors a year, which can pose law enforcement challenges.

Using funds generated through the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA), the BLM has assigned 4 rangers and 1 agent to a 25-officer, multiagency land management task force. The task force is composed of personnel from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, and National Park Service. Through a memorandum of understanding, the four agencies target problem areas within all four of their jurisdictions. For example, the task force handles law enforcement duties at the BLM-Nevada Sunrise Management Area east of Las Vegas. Over the course of the year, the SNPLMA law enforcement task force conducted several multiagency operations, and the Southern Nevada District Office documented 2,317 incidents, issued approximately 1,640 citations, and made 12 arrests.

The BLM-Utah Moab Field Office administers 277 miles of backcountry roads and maintains the main entrance roads to the Canyon Rims Recreation Area—the Needles Overlook and the Anticline Overlook Roads, both of which are state scenic backways. Many other motorized routes within the Moab Field Office are used for recreational purposes, but, by far, the most popular motorized routes include any of the 785 miles in the Jeep Safari Route system. This extensive network of backcountry routes has been popularized in guidebooks and maps, making Moab a four-wheeling Mecca that attracts thousands of visitors. Every spring four-wheel enthusiasts

flock to the area to see the magnificent arches, bridges, spires, fins, and, of course, backcountry trails. During the 2010 Easter Jeep Safari, there were approximately 1,600 registered vehicles. The BLM assigned 9 rangers to the event, who issued 50 citations and 45 written warnings.

BLM-Utah is also the proud manager of 60,000 acres of sagebrush flats, Juniper-covered hills, and free-moving sand dunes in the Little Sahara Recreation Area (LSRA). At LSRA, visitors ride freely across the dunes and trails and enjoy climbing the 700-foot mountain of sand. On Easter weekend alone, LSRA saw 31,000 visitors. The BLM assigned six rangers and four special agents to the event, who worked closely with additional local, state, and federal law enforcement personnel. BLM rangers issued 29 citations and 96 warnings, made 2 arrests, helped with numerous incidents requiring medical care, and assisted other law enforcement agencies with state law violations.

Counterdrug Operations

In 2010, the BLM-Nevada OLES documented five marijuana gardens operated by an MDTO on public lands. Three gardens were located on BLM land, one was found on U.S. Forest Service land, and one was discovered on National Park Service land. Together, the five gardens contained approximately 20,400 marijuana plants, which is four times the number of plants eradicated in the previous year. In 2009, only 4,500 marijuana plants were eradicated.

BLM-Utah law enforcement was instrumental and especially active combating illegal marijuana cultivation on public lands in 2010. Special agents and rangers helped coordinate the discovery, surveillance, and eradication of illegal gardens. BLM agents assisted in identifying 15 gardens, eradicating 72,000 live marijuana plants and more than 400 pounds of dried street-ready product, and apprehending 13 suspects.

Fire Management

BLM-Utah has one special agent fully dedicated to the fire management program. The Utah fire investigation and trespass program, in conjunction with the USAO Affirmative

Civil Enforcement Division, is nationally held as the model fire trespass recovery program for the BLM. To date, their combined efforts have recovered approximately \$5.3 million, and an additional \$3.3 million remains in litigation but is expected to be recovered. These sums represent a huge impact in the recovery of taxpayer dollars spent to suppress wildland fires and rehabilitate burned public lands.

Cultural Resources

The Cerberus Action investigation is a multicomponent and multiphased case, which has so far resulted in 11 federal convictions, 55 felony counts, and the recovery of hundreds of thousands of archaeological and Native American artifacts. The BLM law enforcement program is continuing with its

investigation and working closely with our federal and state law enforcement partners to detect, deter, and defeat illegal looting of Native American antiquities on public lands. The law enforcement program is working across a four-state region—Utah, New Mexico, Colorado, and Arizona—and coordinating with the U.S. Attorney's office to ensure the consistent investigation and prosecution of ARPA and Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) crimes. BLM law enforcement also continued to work closely with cultural partners to prepare the documents required to transfer artifact collections from the Department of Justice to the BLM.

In addition, the BLM developed a decision tree and strategy for determining the disposition of collections that is consistent with statutory requirements laid out in both ARPA and NAGPRA. The BLM law enforcement program maintains a state-of-the-art storage facility and employs a curator for artifacts seized in the ongoing Cerberus investigation. The curator enhances the BLM's ability to process, house, document, and determine the ultimate disposition of thousands and thousands of seized artifacts. Case agents also represented the BLM in both archaeological circles and tribal communities. Agents gave presentations showcasing the BLM's ongoing efforts to curb artifact looting and trade to both the Society for American Archaeology and the National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers. Law enforcement personnel continue to collaborate with the BLM cultural division and public affairs on the development of appropriate public outreach projects.

Overall

In 2010, Region 3 law enforcement officers documented 5,501 incidents, issued approximately 2,665 citations, and made or assisted with approximately 44 felony arrests.



Wild Horses and Burros

As directed by Congress under the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act (WFRHBA) of 1971, the BLM protects, manages, and controls wild horses and burros that roam Western public rangelands. The Bureau manages these iconic animals on 26.6 million acres of BLM-managed Western rangeland as part of its overall multiple-use mission.

One of the BLM's key responsibilities under the 1971 law is to determine the "appropriate management level" of wild horses and burros on the public rangelands. These animals have virtually no natural predators, and their herd size can double about every 4 years. As a result, about 38,400 wild horses and burros roam BLM-managed lands in 10 Western states, a population that exceeds by nearly 12,000 the number that can exist in balance with other public rangeland resources and uses.

When an overpopulation of wild horses and burros exists on public lands, the BLM gathers excess animals and offers them to the general public for adoption or sale. The BLM presents these animals at adoption events and at BLM facilities throughout the United States.

OLES Involvement

The BLM OLES continues to support the WFRHBA by enforcing and investigating the unauthorized harassment, injury, destruction, theft, and sale of America's protected wild horses and burros. In addition, the OLES provides court assistance and security in wild horse and burro impoundments and assists the Wild Horse and Burro

Adoption Program by enforcing private maintenance and care agreement conditions.

Off the range, there are about 37,800 other wild horses and burros that are fed and cared for in short-term corrals and long-term pastures. As of October 2010, there were approximately 11,400 in corrals and 26,400 in Midwestern long-term pastures. All wild horses and burros in holding, like those roaming the public rangelands, are protected by the BLM under the 1971 WFRHBA.

In addition to providing security at wild horse and burro gather operations throughout the West, BLM law enforcement officers investigated and enforced 193 issues concerning the wild horses and burros in 2010.

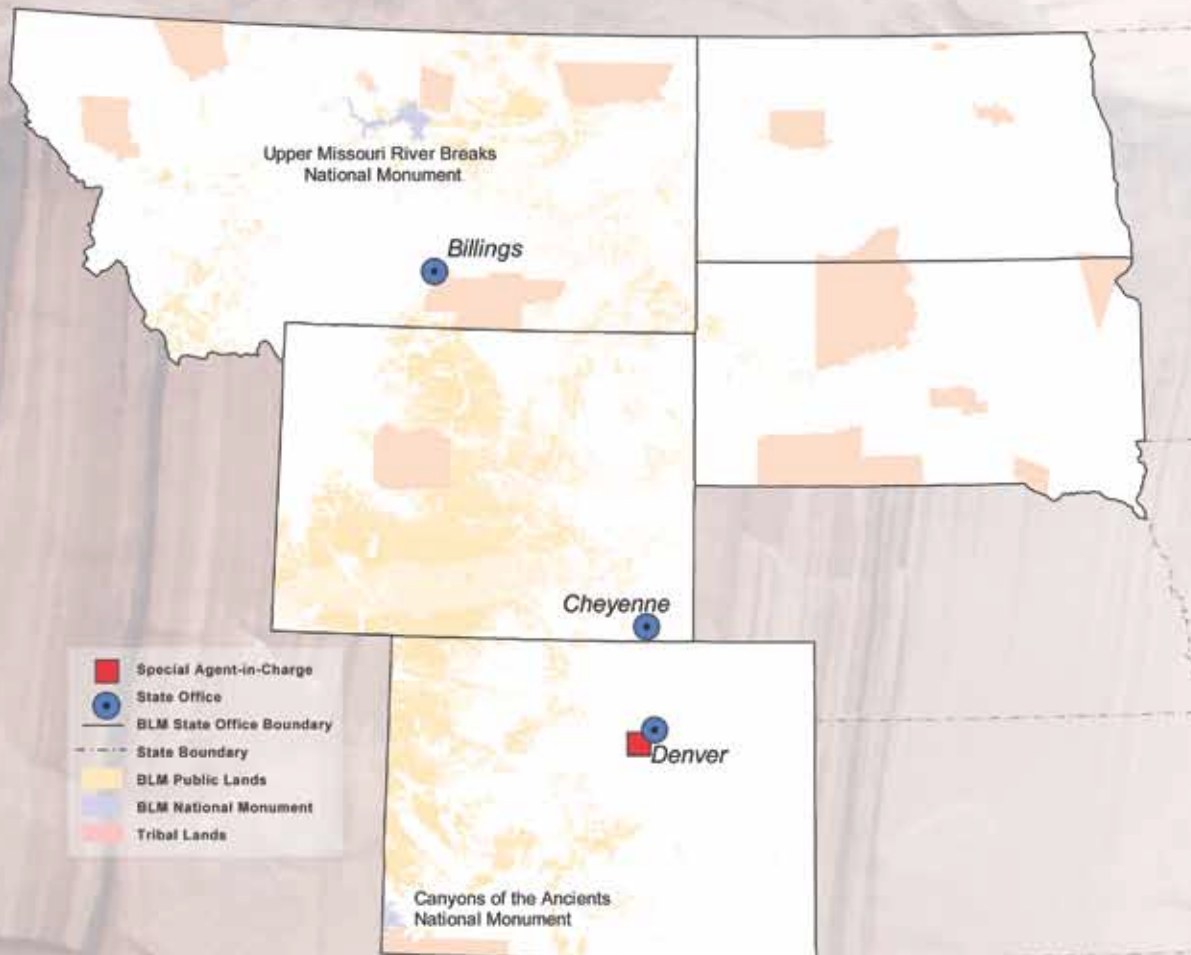
Types of Investigations

Unfortunately, traditional investigations of tragic wild horse and burro shootings on public lands continue to happen, but they are far rarer today than they have been in years past. In June 2010, two Pershing County, Nevada, men pled guilty in federal court to maliciously harassing, shooting, and killing five wild, free-roaming horses in November 2009 in the BLM-Nevada Buckhorn Horse Management Area.

"The intentional and malicious harassment, abuse, and killing of federally protected wild horses should not and will not be tolerated," said the Nevada U.S. Attorney. "As this case demonstrates, our office will fully pursue and prosecute criminal violations to the fullest extent provided by the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971."



REGION 4



REGION 4

Special Agent-in-Charge

Region 4 Special Agent-in-Charge Jeanne Proctor has 18 years of law enforcement experience, spending 10 years of that in a supervisory role. With the BLM since 2001, Proctor has been a special agent and supervisory criminal investigator for both BLM-Colorado and BLM-Eastern States, where she worked a full spectrum of resource cases, special events, and details. Before coming to the BLM, Proctor held career positions as a security specialist with the Internal Revenue Service, a supervisory police officer for the Department of Commerce, and a combat support military police officer in the U.S. Army. While serving in the Army, she earned the rank of captain, leading soldiers in both peacetime and during war. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from the University of Nebraska, a Master of Science in Public Administration with additional post-graduate work in regional land use planning from Central Michigan University, and a doctorate in education with a focus on natural and cultural resources interpretation from the University of Denver.



The BLM Region 4 law enforcement program has 36 rangers and 7 special agents in Montana, North and South Dakota, Wyoming, Colorado, and the Eastern States, where the BLM administers approximately 35 million acres of land. Law enforcement officers in Region 4 also provide patrol and investigative support in Nebraska, the Dakotas, and the Eastern States.

Consistently meeting public safety demands, resource protection mandates, and land management needs across such vast expanses of land requires quality people, solid training, and dependable partnerships. Region 4 law enforcement personnel meet these goals every day as they perform a full spectrum of resource protection, patrol duties, and investigative functions.

Montana/Dakotas

In Montana and the Dakotas, the BLM administers 8.3 million acres of public land and 47 million acres of mineral estate. These public lands contain energy and mineral production, vast expanses of open space, breathtaking scenery, recreation opportunities, national monuments, grazing livestock, historic and prehistoric sites, wildlife, wild horses, watersheds, timbered mountains, and rolling prairies.

In 2010, officers provided law enforcement support in Montana and the Dakotas for several nationally known special events, including the annual Sturgis Motorcycle Rally, which can bring more than 525,000 people to the area. Officers also participated in the national Safe Indian Community Initiative, which



aims to combat methamphetamine use in tribal communities. At the Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation in Montana, BLM officers bolstered tribal law enforcement efforts to provide an environment where citizens feel safe enough to begin fighting the drug epidemic devastating their community. Law enforcement personnel investigated the theft of archaeological and paleontological resources, criminal trespassing, and theft of government property. In 2010, nine rangers and one special agent undertook nearly 1,000 reportable enforcement actions.

Wyoming/Nebraska

The BLM manages approximately 18.4 million acres of surface land and approximately 26.4 million acres of mineral estate in Wyoming, and the BLM-Wyoming Casper Field Office also manages roughly 4,000 acres of public land in Nebraska.

In 2010, BLM-Wyoming's nine rangers and one special agent contributed significantly to the Secretary of the Interior's priority mission to improve the safety and quality of life in America's Native communities. As part of Operation Alliance, a BIA violent crime reduction initiative, BLM law enforcement officers helped patrol the Wind River Indian Reservation. While there, a BLM special agent assisted with orientations, cultural awareness, and operational briefings, and worked to build constructive relationships with

community stakeholders, including the county sheriff and the tribal council. BLM-Wyoming law enforcement personnel also supported wild horse gathers in Rock Springs and Rawlins and conducted investigations into felony weapons convictions, special recreation permit violations, wild horse abuse, fossil thefts, and human-caused wildland fires.

Colorado/Eastern States

Law enforcement officers in BLM-Colorado and BLM-Eastern States conduct investigations and patrol approximately 8.3 million acres of public lands. More than one-third of Colorado's land area is owned by the public and available for public use. These public lands provide plenty of open space for the public to enjoy and contribute enormously to improving quality of life. In the Eastern States, the BLM administers vast and complex public interests in subsurface federal minerals and fluid resources across many states.

In 2010, BLM-Colorado law enforcement personnel conducted investigations into the theft and trafficking of archaeological resources, human-caused wildland fires, trespassing, unauthorized recreational events, hazardous materials dumping, burglary, and illegal drug cultivation. In the Eastern States, officers traveled widely across multiple states to conduct criminal investigations into federal mineral laws enforcement, the abandonment and neglect of adopted horses, check fraud, and failure to pay animal adoption fees.



Wildland Fire Trespass Program

The BLM OLES plays a leading role in the agency's fire trespass program. The purpose of the fire trespass program is to reduce unwanted human-caused ignitions and property and resource losses from wildland fires and to offset fire suppression and land rehabilitation costs. In addition to training and developing skilled fire investigators, the OLES also assists with program management and suppression, investigation, and cost recovery.

Every year, wildfires in the United States burn millions of acres. The costs of suppressing these fires, stabilizing lands after a fire, and rehabilitating burned lands continue to rise. Some wildland fires occur naturally, perhaps from a lightning strike. Others start with human negligence like a forgotten campfire, and some are the result of criminal intent. But, no matter the cause, the BLM's fire trespass program, with the help of OLES special agents and rangers, works tirelessly to educate the public, prevent wildfires, and offset the steep costs associated with wildland fires.

The BLM, like all federal wildland fire suppression agencies, is required to determine the cause of wildland fires. Accurately identifying a fire's cause is crucial to determining responsibility. In cases involving negligence, the BLM may pursue the responsible party to recover suppression and property damage costs. In cases involving arson or other criminal acts, identifying and apprehending the perpetrator is in the public interest. At the BLM, the OLES supports the fire trespass program by conducting these critical investigations.

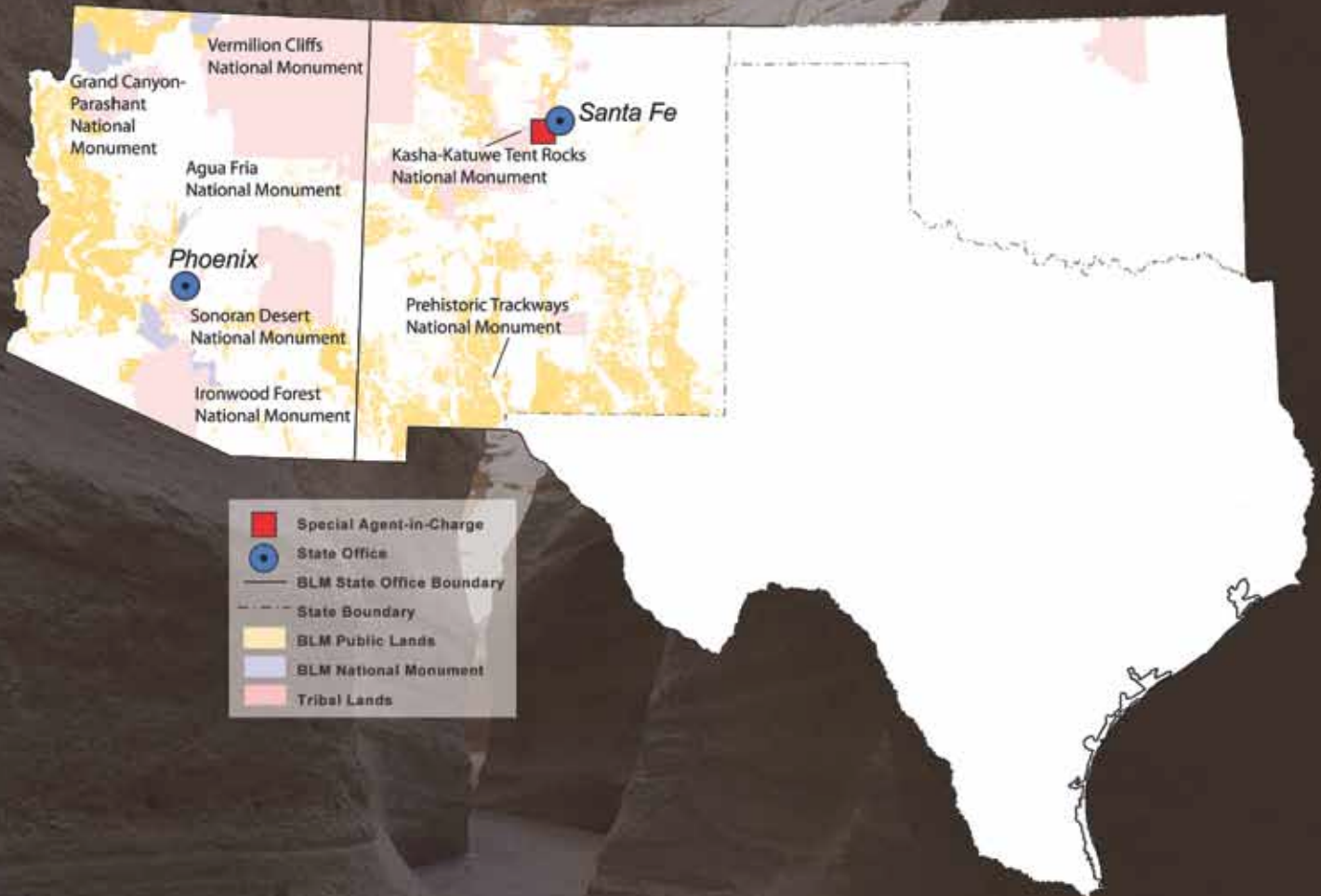
In 2010, 2,424 fires burned nearly 822,000 acres of BLM lands, and all of these required a cause determination made by a certified wildland fire investigator. The OLES investigates all human-caused fires that appear to have a criminal element, and BLM special agents and rangers work very closely with

the Department of the Interior's Office of the Solicitor and the Department of Justice to pursue both criminal prosecution and civil resolution in fire trespass cases—many of which result in significant cost recovery. In many instances, the money recovered with the assistance of BLM law enforcement officers is routed into the BLM's wildland fire education and prevention programs.

Additionally, the OLES actively serves on the National Wildfire Coordinating Group's (NWCG) Wildland Fire Investigation Subcommittee, which has worked since 2000 to develop national standards for wildland fire investigators. Beginning in 2011, the BLM special agent representative will serve as the subcommittee chair and will lead the group through the continued development and eventual implementation of a new training course that focuses on wildland fire civil litigation case development. BLM law enforcement officers routinely coordinate and provide instruction for NWCG fire investigation courses taught throughout the United States. Many federal land management agencies, as well as state and local groups, use these important courses to educate and certify their wildland fire investigators.

The National Wildfire Coordinating Group is made up of the U.S. Forest Service and four Department of the Interior agencies—the BLM, the National Park Service, the BIA, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service—as well as numerous state forestry agencies. The group coordinates participating agencies' wildfire management programs to reduce wasteful duplication and provides a system for defining jointly acceptable professional standards.

REGION 5



REGION 5

Special Agent-in-Charge

In 2010, Noel Wagner became the Region 5 Special Agent-in-Charge. Wagner, who has worked in federal law enforcement for 17 years, began his service as a patrol officer with the United States Park Police. While with the Park Police, Wagner worked undercover in the agency's Narcotics and Vice Unit and served as a field training officer. In 1997, he transferred to the BLM as a ranger assigned to the BLM-California Barstow Field Office where he was responsible for law enforcement duties within several large off-highway vehicle areas as well as a wide variety of resource protection criminal investigations throughout the California Desert District. Then, in 2001, Wagner became a special agent in the BLM-California El Centro Field Office. There, his duties included details at the Glamis Sand Dunes, border interdiction operations, and investigating marijuana cultivation cases in and around California's Imperial Valley. From 2003 to 2009, Wagner was the New Mexico State Office lead investigator for cultural and natural resource protection cases. Before his selection as the Region 5 SAC, Wagner was chosen to be the BLM-New Mexico SAC in 2009. Wagner is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh where he earned a bachelor's degree in the administration of justice.



The OLES regionalization effort in early 2010 officially combined the law enforcement programs in Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas into a single law enforcement region—Region 5. This new region controls investigative and patrol functions for the BLM-administered lands and mineral estate throughout the now-combined states.

Region 5 law enforcement staff is composed of rangers, special agents, and investigative technicians. These dedicated men and women strive every day to protect the public, BLM employees and volunteers, and the natural and cultural resources on these lands. Region 5 law enforcement officers pursue a broad range of cases—from recreation-related offenses to felony investigations—as they work to protect visitors and resources alike.

2010 was a busy year for Region 5 as the U.S. Attorney's Office (USAO) accepted numerous cases from successful BLM law enforcement investigations. Region 5 agents and rangers worked on a wide variety of cases, investigating everything from illegal artifact and plant trafficking and timber theft to illegal wire burning and unauthorized use in several New Mexico National Landscape Conservation System units.



Cultural Resources

In 2010, Region 5 spent a significant amount of time and resources investigating the illegal removal and trafficking of artifacts across New Mexico and throughout the entire Four Corners region. Over the summer months, Region 5 agents presented the first of four criminal cases to the USAO. This case involves the first New Mexico suspect implicated in the Four Corner's ARPA investigation or Cerberus Action.

In Arizona, Region 5 agents continued coordinating with the USAO regarding evidence obtained during the Cerberus Action. Evidence from Cerberus and two subsequent Internal Revenue Service search warrants provided a wealth of information regarding the illegal Native American artifact trade in Arizona. In fact, information generated from Cerberus opened several new investigations and may support future ARPA investigations in Region 5.

An archaeological resources case begun in late 2006 culminated in mid-2010 with a federal search warrant on a Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, residence. Information gathered during the multiyear investigation revealed that a suspect was actively collecting artifacts from public lands in Sierra County, New Mexico, to support an archaeology professor's research. In June, BLM law enforcement officers recovered more than 1,800 artifacts from the suspect's residence. The USAO is currently pursuing charges including ARPA violations, theft of government property, and conspiracy.

Mineral Extraction

Also over the summer, Region 5 agents and rangers investigated several sizeable mineral extraction cases in New Mexico. One case resulted in the Department of Justice Affirmative Civil Enforcement unit recovering \$470,000 in settlement costs from a large, Texas-based extraction and refinery firm.

Illegal Plant Trafficking

In central Arizona, Region 5 agents and rangers investigated four cases of commercial saguaro cactus theft on

BLM-managed lands. As a symbol of Arizona's spectacular Sonoran Desert and a part of Americans' treasured Western landscapes, the cacti are extremely valuable in illegal commercial plant trafficking and are protected under the Federal Lacey Act. Under the act, nine search warrants for evidence of stolen cacti were executed in the Phoenix area, and in one case, the stolen saguaro's value exceeded \$75,000. Region 5's saguaro theft investigations also identified people involved in the theft of other native plants, and these cases are still under investigation.

Rural Crimes

In northwestern New Mexico, the San Juan County Rural Crimes Initiative (RCI) continued to investigate and curtail oil and gas theft and other rural crimes throughout the region. The RCI is a partnership between the San Juan County Sheriff's Office and BLM law enforcement that focuses on oil field violations and other rural crimes like illegal wire-burning.

Illegally burning stolen electrical wires on public lands poses a growing environmental hazard—especially in more remote areas where it can be difficult to solve cases and successfully prosecute such crimes. Federal and state land management agencies and local law enforcement officials are encountering sharp increases in incidents of illegal wire burning as individuals trying to make an illegal profit steal wire and burn the insulation from the wire to collect more money at scrap metal recycling facilities. However, in 2010, the RCI targeted metal recyclers in San Juan County with an undercover agent who attempted to sell obviously burned copper wire and other suspicious metals to local recyclers. The undercover operation successfully netted several violations and resulted in four arrests.

Another successful RCI investigation involving stolen stainless steel and other metals valued at more than \$250,000 resulted in two defendants pleading guilty to felony charges, including commercial burglary. One defendant was classified as a habitual offender and received a 17-year sentence in state prison.

Border Security and Counterdrug Operations

On our border with Mexico, the Region 5 law enforcement program also participated in numerous multiagency border safety and counterdrug operations on lands in the Sonoran Desert and Ironwood Forest National Monuments, as well as the Bootheel area of southern New Mexico. These operations were planned and executed to combat the smuggling activities that have made legal activities like camping or hiking nearly impossible and rendered these areas extremely dangerous for both BLM employees and the public.

The most recent operation—Reclaim Our Arizona Monuments (ROAM)—involved BLM rangers and special agents from all over the country. As part of ROAM, our law enforcement officers also worked closely with personnel from the BLM-Arizona Phoenix and Gila District Offices to coordinate land rehabilitation and cleanup efforts throughout the monuments. BLM-Arizona also supported the operation with an extensive vehicle barrier program along the monuments' southern borders.

In conjunction with these border operations, BLM law enforcement personnel seized approximately 3,650 pounds of processed marijuana and apprehended many undocumented aliens, indicting 11 individuals for smuggling.

In another case, Region 5 law enforcement officers stopped a group of undocumented aliens who were supporting smuggling activities by manning secret observation posts in the monuments. In 2010, the BLM-New Mexico law enforcement program remained active in and committed to the fight against domestic marijuana production. In coordination with the U.S. Forest Service, the BLM Region 3

Narcotics Task Force, and the New Mexico National Guard, officers worked together to conduct marijuana cultivation overflights, long-term case investigations, and confidential source development. Over the summer of 2010, BLM law enforcement personnel investigated and eradicated a 175-plant marijuana garden located along the Rio Grande Wild and Scenic River.

In August 2010, two BLM-Arizona rangers and four BLM-Utah rangers assisted the Kane County, Utah, Sheriff's Office, the Coconino County, Arizona, Sheriff's Office, and several hundred other officers from local, county, state, and federal agencies in the manhunt for a suspect who allegedly shot and killed a Kane County deputy. At the request of the Coconino County Sheriff's Office, 10 additional BLM rangers from Colorado, Utah, Arizona, and California responded to the area to provide additional manpower for the ongoing search. The 4-day manhunt concluded successfully in the early morning hours of August 30 with the fugitive's apprehension.

Two Region 5 rangers were assaulted with a firearm near Bowie, Arizona. Both rangers were unhurt, and an ensuing manhunt and investigation by Cochise County and BLM officers led to the apprehension of the assailant. The suspect remains in custody in Cochise County, Arizona, and is charged with two counts of attempted murder and two counts of aggravated assault.

Ultimately, Region 5 law enforcement personnel had an extremely busy year as they worked together and coordinated with other agencies and local law enforcement to improve safety throughout the region and make the public lands under their care safer for both the public and our own BLM employees.

Border Issues and BLM Law Enforcement

BLM lands in New Mexico and Arizona share nearly 130 miles of international border with Mexico. While the borderlands are generally classified as lands within a 100-mile zone north of the U.S.-Mexico border, many of the lands impacted by border issues lie beyond the 100-mile zone. For example, in Arizona, the borderlands include the Ironwood Forest and Sonoran Desert National Monuments, the San Pedro Riparian and Las Cienegas National Conservation Areas, and other significant BLM-managed wilderness areas. In New Mexico, nearly the entire Bootheel region and many miles of Doña Ana County extend past the designated 100-mile borderlands zone.

Impacts to Public Lands

Unfortunately, the remoteness of public lands along this border has contributed to the development of large smuggling corridors. With so many miles of isolated land, law enforcement presence is often distributed over millions and millions of acres. Although BLM law enforcement personnel continuously develop local intelligence sources and maintain close patrol relationships with their regional law enforcement partners, these smuggling corridors are nonetheless vast and complex, often changing quickly with the seasons.

Since the late 1990s, BLM-managed lands in the Southwest have been increasingly impacted by smuggling activities. These impacts include a sharp rise in the presence of illegal drugs and undocumented immigrants. The wild and unique character of public lands in the borderlands area has been enormously affected by everything from trash and new trails to abandoned vehicles and road damage. Worse, fires and acts of violence are increasing and have become especially intense along the Colorado River. These significant issues, as well as our coordination efforts with the Department of Homeland Security, routinely create large workloads for the BLM law enforcement program.



Throughout the borderlands, undocumented immigrant deaths due to extreme sun and heat exposure or water deprivation continue to be a major concern for BLM law enforcement. In 2010, the U.S. Border Patrol Tucson Sector reported that approximately 11 undocumented immigrants died of heat exposure on BLM-administered lands. During recent border operations, BLM officers found several immigrants suffering from severe exposure and were able to call for medical attention and life support services that saved their lives.

Moreover, foot and vehicle traffic from smuggling activities and immigrant travel cause extensive damage to cultural sites and natural resources on BLM-managed lands. This traffic creates de facto trails and roads through fragile desert landscapes and other ecologically sensitive areas, which can fragment wildlife habitat or cause excessive erosion. Trash from undocumented immigrants traveling through the borderlands accumulates over time and covers large swaths of land. Smugglers often cache vehicles for later use, which is also a heavy burden because these vehicles require a great deal of money and effort to remove from public lands. In addition to the toll it takes to remove these vehicles, human smugglers have also been known to abandon vehicles carrying undocumented immigrants rather than face apprehension. This poses a major health threat to the people trapped in these vehicles, often under a sweltering sun in the middle of a remote desert landscape.

Smuggling activities in borderlands have led to the creation of countersurveillance operations and other infrastructure on many peaks and high points in the Southwest. Some of these illegal observation sites are located in protected wilderness areas and other lands within the National Landscape Conservation System. These clandestine observation posts can involve power sources, use excavated caves, and have manmade structures that use the surrounding rocks and trees for concealment. Aside from the large amounts of trash often left at these sites, many of the observers are armed. One case, involving a group of undocumented immigrants manning clandestine observation posts in Arizona national monuments, resulted in the indictment of a suspect who

was subsequently determined to be a prohibited person in possession of a firearm. The suspect was, in fact, a scout apprehended en route to a secret lookout post that supported smuggling activities.

Law Enforcement Efforts

The BLM law enforcement program also maintains a presence in the southwest Arizona border region's High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) office. The BLM has been an active partner in HIDTA initiatives since 1999. The HIDTA brings together federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies to foster communication and cooperation on common border issues. While HIDTA's primary focus is drug enforcement, all aspects of border security, management, and law enforcement are addressed.

The Arizona HIDTA office has the largest, most comprehensive border intelligence database in the Southwest and consistently provides the Department of the Interior with analytical assistance. The center also assists the BLM with border liaisons in other agencies and state departments, such as the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, Arizona National Guard, and Tucson Police Department to name only a few. HIDTA promotes a task-force working environment that facilitates a force-multiplying approach to border issues that affect BLM lands.

Mexican narcotics smuggling operations are intricately structured, well-executed, multibillion dollar businesses. These operations represent international, organized crime on a massive scale, and violence is an unfortunate component of their business success. This past year saw a substantial increase in drug-related violence along the border—especially within the BLM-managed Sonoran Desert National Monument—which led to a border safety operation to reclaim the public lands in our national monuments and to create a safer environment for visitors and BLM employees.

To that end, the BLM law enforcement program implemented a full spectrum of criminal justice intervention techniques. These techniques involved disrupting, deterring,

and detecting crimes; apprehending and arresting criminals; and completing followup investigations to support successful prosecutions and convictions. By creating a less desirable and less profitable place for drug traffickers to operate, this approach successfully disrupted and deterred some of the criminal organizations from smuggling drugs and people across BLM lands in 2010.

As BLM's full-spectrum approach to border smuggling increases area safety, which improves BLM employee and volunteer safety, administrative efforts to restore and rehabilitate impacted lands become more successful. Ultimately, the full-spectrum approach to law enforcement in the borderlands directly supports the BLM's multiple-use mission by protecting people and resources through diminished criminal activity.

In 2010, the BLM law enforcement program actively combated drug trafficking and smuggling organizations on public lands throughout the Southwest. Region 5 personnel conducted 7 border interdiction operations resulting in 11 indictments and the seizure of approximately 3,650 pounds of marijuana in Arizona alone. In conjunction with local and federal partners, the Region 5 officers directed and coordinated extensive vehicle and refuse removal.

This year, Region 5 law enforcement officers participated in several operations with the U.S. Border Patrol and

the Doña Ana County Sheriff's Office in New Mexico's Bootheel region. These joint operations targeted human and narcotics smuggling in addition to the land damage and violence associated with trafficking activities. The operational partnerships proved beneficial to all three agencies and improved understanding of and appreciation for each agency's unique mission. One operation with the U.S. Border Patrol provided BLM law enforcement officers with a tactical tracking class, which resulted in several successful narcotics seizures and identified areas with significant resource damage, including a section of vandalized petroglyphs.

Looking Ahead

Illegal activities along our border with Mexico continue to impact BLM-managed lands in Arizona and New Mexico; off-road travel, littering, and vandalism threaten fragile environments and damage resources. In 2010, BLM law enforcement personnel implemented a successful full-spectrum approach to combating criminal activities in the borderlands. Building on that success in 2011, BLM law enforcement will continue pursuing improved border security and resource protection through enhanced law enforcement operations and interagency coordination efforts.

San Juan Public Lands Center



Service First

The San Juan Public Lands Center (SJPLC) in Durango, Colorado, manages more than 664,000 acres of public lands, 300,000 acres of subsurface federal mineral estate, and has trust responsibility for minerals management on 800,000 acres of tribal lands. At SJPLC, both the BLM-Colorado San Juan Field Office and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) San Juan National Forest productively administer these lands as a team under the Service First concept.

Service First is a unique partnership concept that brings together four agencies—the BLM, USFS, National Park Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service—to explore alternative methods of delivering consistently outstanding, one-stop customer service to the public, effectively sharing people and resources, and harmonizing similar work. Instead of trying to combine four agencies into one, Service First creates expectations for agency collaboration to improve customer service and operational efficiency across the board.

At the SJPLC, the BLM and USFS are working together to provide exemplary customer service in cost effective ways to public land users in southwestern Colorado. The SJPLC is the only organization in the country providing unified leadership in all aspects of land management under the two agencies. Shared BLM and USFS offices in Pagosa Springs, Durango, Bayfield, and Dolores oversee the three San Juan National Forest ranger districts, several BLM field offices, and the Canyons of the Ancients National Monument.

SJPLC Law Enforcement Presence

Three BLM rangers and one BLM special agent comprise the OLES presence in the San Juan area. These officers work closely with sheriffs' offices in Dolores, Hinsdale, Montezuma, San Juan, and San Miguel Counties. Strong state-level working relationships exist with the Colorado State Patrol, Colorado Bureau of Investigation, and Colorado Division of Wildlife. Productive relationships with federal law enforcement agencies such as the U.S. Attorney's Office, United States Courts, U.S. Marshals Service, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement further leverage the BLM law enforcement

officers' protective and investigative capabilities. Their dynamic relationships and coordinated efforts improve area safety and ensure that public land users and resources throughout the San Juan Resource Area are protected.

Canyons of the Ancients National Monument

The Canyons of the Ancients National Monument is managed as an integral cultural landscape containing a wealth of historic and environmental resources. As a part of the National Landscape Conservation System, the monument covers more than 180,000 acres. Its rugged canyons offer visitors scenery that is both stunning and unique. Although visitor use averages more than 150,000 annually, automobile routes through the monument are few, which enhances the monument's wild beauty and helps protect its natural and cultural resources.

With more than 6,000 recorded sites and roughly 12,000 additional estimated sites, the monument is one of the richest archaeological areas in the American Southwest. In some places, there are nearly 120 archaeological sites per square mile that represent the Ancestral Puebloan and other Native American cultures. Although most of the sites are not visible to the untrained eye, and precise locations are not publicized, law enforcement personnel must work tirelessly to protect them from the degradations of vandals and thieves. The San Juan OLES criminal investigation program focuses on the illegal removal and trafficking of archaeological resources and ensures the continued flow of criminal investigative information related to archaeological resources throughout the Four Corners region.

Looting irreplaceable archaeological resources is an ever-constant threat, and BLM rangers employ a mix of ATV, four-wheel drive, and foot patrol methods to cover the monument's thousands of acres. Rangers also make good use of the cultural Site Steward Program, which gives the rangers additional eyes and ears throughout the monument's backcountry. The Four Corners special agent and rangers provide this all-volunteer group with annual training on their law enforcement "roles," crime scene do's and don'ts, as well as situational awareness in rugged, remote areas.

Anasazi Heritage Center

At the beginning of the Canyons of the Ancients stands the Anasazi Heritage Center—a premier archaeological museum dedicated to the Ancestral Puebloan (or Anasazi) and other Native American cultures. When BLM rangers and special agents recover stolen archaeological resources, the museum's cultural resources staff provides the BLM with the expertise and scientific capabilities required to analyze and interpret the evidence. Over the past 2 years, the museum staff has become even more involved with BLM law enforcement. They have supported crime scene processing efforts and the execution of search warrants related to the possession, looting, and trafficking of invaluable Ancestral Puebloan artifacts.

Alpine Triangle

Located in the San Juan Mountains, the Alpine Triangle is a special recreation management area (SRMA) made up of more than 186,000 acres of public land between the towns of Lake City, Silverton, and Ouray. The BLM recognizes the outstanding recreational values and opportunities available in a SRMA and focuses extra time, effort, and funding on managing those resources for public enjoyment and minimal negative impact.

Against an ever-changing seasonal backdrop of snowy 14,000-foot peaks, vibrant wildflowers, and vivid fall leaves, the Alpine Triangle SRMA offers sightseeing and motorized recreation along the Alpine Loop Backcountry Byway. The SRMA also offers hiking, wildlife viewing, fishing, whitewater boating, touring historic sites, snowmobiling, and backcountry skiing accessed by four-wheel-drive roads. Public safety and preventing resource damage are prime focuses for the high-alpine rangers who patrol the craggy

peaks following the annual snowmelt. The area sees its highest visitation every year in July and August. In fact, during the Fourth of July weekend, Silverton's small population of about 550 citizens swells to nearly 15,000. In 4 short months, the BLM rangers interact with more than 300,000 people. The rangers partner closely with seasonal Silverton-based BLM recreation specialists, a county-appointed alpine ranger, and the San Juan County Sheriff's Office to dramatically increase public safety and resource protection.

Other Areas

The Dolores Field Office manages the stewardship of the Dolores River—Colorado's longest remote river. The Dolores River Recreation Area offers visitors stunning red rock canyons, exhilarating whitewater, and serene flat water wilderness rafting, fishing, canoeing, camping, and hunting opportunities. Memorial Day weekend is the busiest time of year on the Dolores River. While patrolling backcountry areas on such weekends, BLM rangers often encounter more than 200 people at the Bradfield Bridge, Slick Rock, Mountain Sheep, and Gypsum Valley launch sites.

Disappointment Valley gives visitors sweeping panoramic views and year-round recreational opportunities, but the area's high concentration of archaeological sites presents rangers with the most challenge. The sheer abundance of cultural resource sites throughout the area makes Disappointment Valley a prime target for illegal artifact collection. Additionally, the area is known to produce trophy elk, mule deer, and mountain lions, making big game hunting a prime focus for BLM law enforcement every fall.

How to Apply for Jobs with the BLM Office of Law Enforcement and Security

Vacancies for law enforcement ranger or special agent positions with the BLM can be found online at www.usajobs.gov, by contacting your nearest BLM office and asking to speak with a law enforcement ranger, or by visiting www.blm.gov.

Entry-level trainee law enforcement ranger positions start at the GL-5 level, with the majority of positions being in the southern desert areas. Previous law enforcement experience may qualify an applicant for entry at the GL-7 or GL-9 levels. The law enforcement ranger series has a promotion potential as high as GS-13.

The BLM has less than 100 special agents, which means the positions are extremely competitive and highly sought. Only the most qualified applicants are selected. Special agent positions start at the GS-11 level, but previous law enforcement experience may qualify an applicant at the GS-12 level. The special agent series has promotion potential as high as GS-15.

BLM rangers and special agents are subject to random drug testing. In addition, the work generally involves working nights, weekends, holidays, and extended shifts during special events or unplanned operations. The qualifications for entry into the BLM law enforcement program are rigorous. Applicants must be able to meet all of the following:

- Be a United States citizen
- Pass an extensive background investigation, drug test, physical fitness test, and medical exam
- Hold a valid state driver's license and be capable of operating motor vehicles or special purpose law enforcement vehicles of various types, including four-wheel drive and all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles, and small watercraft
- Not have reached your 37th birthday at the time of your appointment or, if older than 37, have prior experience in a qualifying federal law enforcement position
- Be able to safely use firearms, nonlethal weapons, and control tactics in the conduct of your law enforcement duties

If selected for a law enforcement position, you will be required to:

- Successfully complete the 16-week Land Management Police Training Program at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center and the BLM's Field Training and Evaluation Program if you are a ranger
- Successfully complete the 11-week Criminal Investigator Training Program at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center if you are a special agent
- Successfully complete a minimum of 40 hours of BLM law enforcement in-service training annually
- Meet recurring firearms and control tactics training and qualification standards
- Complete periodic medical and physical fitness testing
- Maintain a favorable background investigation
- Maintain a delegation of law enforcement authority
- Wear the official law enforcement uniform if you are a ranger



As a TOP COPS award recipient, Ranger Alexandra Burke was honored by President Barack Obama in a Rose Garden ceremony at the White House in May 2010.

Supervisory Ranger Kenny Burger January 26, 1949 – October 13, 2009



On October 13, 2009, the BLM lost one of its most iconic rangers when Supervisory Ranger Kenny Burger passed away.

In total, Ranger Burger served his country honorably for more than 40 years. He began his service in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. After his time in the Army, Ranger Burger spent 20 years in the Secret Service—a point at which most people would have called it a career and drifted off into retirement—but that was not how Ranger Burger lived his life.

Instead, he went to work for BLM-Nevada in Las Vegas in 1990. He embraced the new direction in his law enforcement career. Ranger Burger had extensive knowledge of Las Vegas District activities and locations. Truly dedicated, Ranger Burger always went the extra mile in everything he did. He helped out with special assignments, worked at off-highway vehicle events, and participated in interagency operations.

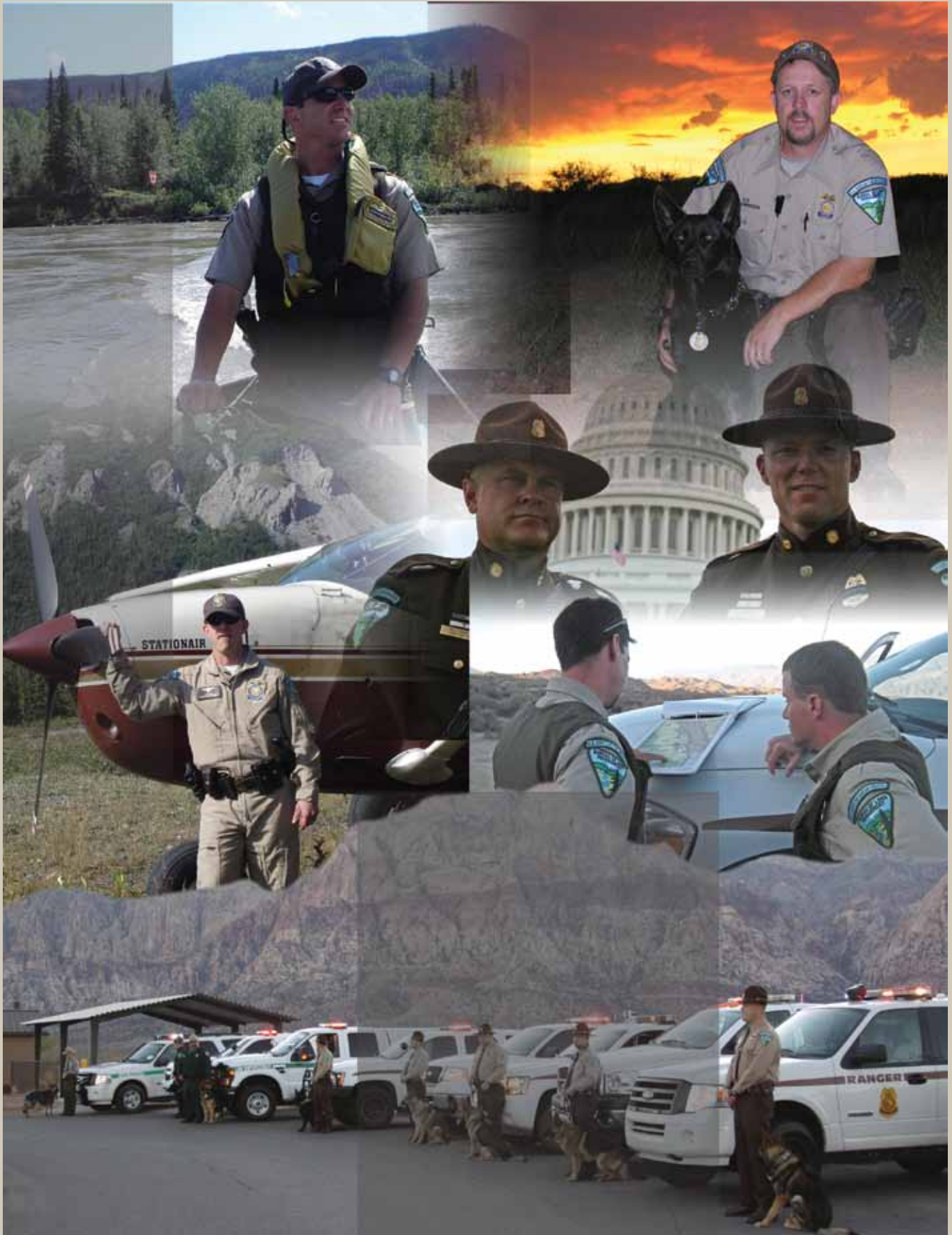
Ranger Burger was instrumental in resolving a number of mining occupancy trespass cases in the Las Vegas area. Occupancy trespass cases are extremely complex and involve long hours and high emotions, yet Ranger Burger—never one to shy away from a challenge—tackled the cases with relish.

But, difficult cases weren't his only specialty. Ranger Burger possessed a quiet, steady demeanor and was always glad to share all of his knowledge and experience. He was a true leader in the BLM ranger program. He became the first police canine handler for the BLM in Nevada. He and his K-9 partner Grimm were an ever-present team on BLM-managed public lands, working together to improve safety for visitors and BLM employees alike.

It was Ranger Burger and Grimm's regular presence that BLM rangers will always remember. No matter what the assignment, they would be there. No matter how many hours were needed to complete an assignment, Ranger Burger and Grimm would work them—and still show up early for their next shift. They were a constant, exceptional example of dedication, drive, and most importantly, heart. BLM Ranger Kenny Burger's absence is keenly felt by all.

Ranger Burger is survived by his K-9 partner Grimm; his wife, Mary; daughter, Crystal; four sons, Paul, Patrick, Kenny, and Jason; and three grandchildren, Max, Ellie, and Kendall.

Grimm is now comfortably retired and living in Las Vegas with one of Ranger Burger's sons, no doubt waiting patiently for the day when he and his partner will go back out on patrol together.



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